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Douglas C. Murdock  
BROBECK, PHLEGER & HARRISON LLP  
12390 El Camino Real  
San Diego, California 92130

Dear Mr. Murdock:

This is in response to your Inquiry received 13 October 2000 with regard to the status of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/463,542. A review of the file indicates that you are not designated as an attorney of record in the application, therefore under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 the only information available is that U.S. Application No. 09/463,542, which is the national stage application of PCT/US98/15411, is now abandoned. If any further information is desired, a power of attorney from the applicant must be submitted.

Sincerely,

Leonard E. Smith  
PCT Legal Examiner  
PCT Legal Office

Nguyễn Ngọc-Hồ  
Paralegal Specialist  
PCT Legal Office

NNH/LES:hn